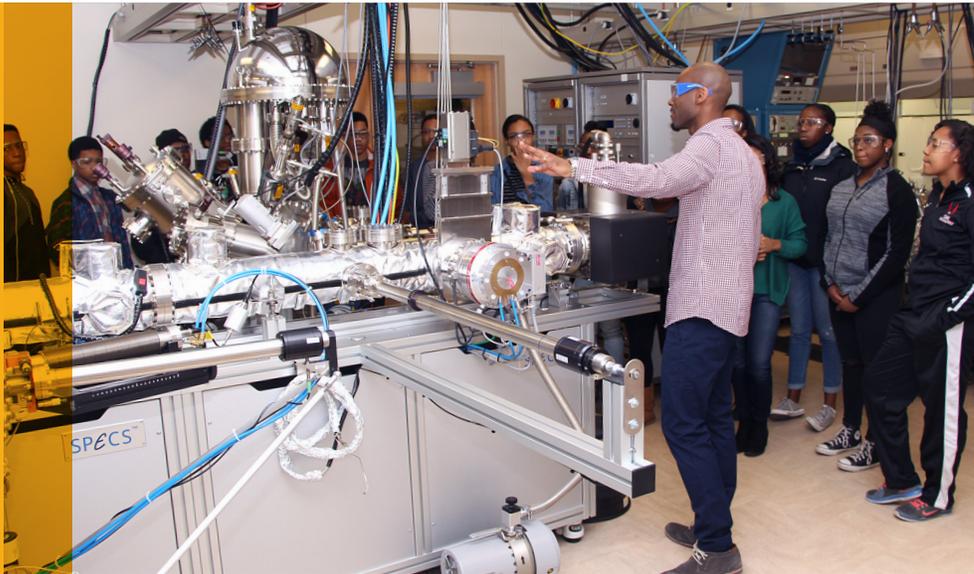


# WELCOME TO THE FUTURE

*Mentoring students in their research*



## STUDENTS CAN EXPLORE THESE ACT-SO CATEGORIES AT ARGONNE

- Architecture
- Biology/Microbiology
- Chemistry/Biochemistry
- Computer Science
- Earth/Space Sciences
- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Medicine and Health



**The Argonne/ACT-SO High School Research Program (ARP) is a one-of-a-kind opportunity for African-American students to gain research experience and mentorship in state-of-the-art facilities from world-renowned scientists. Bridging the minority gap in STEM representation, ARP fosters in-depth exploration of research concepts and exposes college-bound students to an array of career opportunities. ARP is done in collaboration with the DuPage County ACT-SO program.**

High school students are accepted into the program annually and paired with researchers from Argonne National Laboratory and University of Chicago to explore student-led STEM-based projects in one of the following areas: Architecture, Biology/Microbiology, Chemistry/Biochemistry, Computer Science, Earth/Space Sciences, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine and Health.

The program begins in the fall and concludes the following spring. Throughout that time students meet with their assigned mentors to work on projects and on first Saturday of every month, they meet with the entire ARP group, including other student

participant. All meetings for the 2021-22 year will be held virtually. Dupage County ACT-SO holds additional enrichment sessions to develop skills and prepare students for competition on the third Saturday of the month.

The program concludes with students presenting their research projects at the regional and national ACT-SO competitions, which are sponsored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Winners receive scholarships and other prizes. Since starting the program in 2013, dozens of Argonne's ACT-SO students have won gold, silver and bronze medals in the local and national competitions.

## HOW TO ENROLL IN THE ARGONNE ACT-SO HIGH SCHOOL RESEARCH PROGRAM

To participate in the ARP, students must register for the ACT-SO competition online via the [DuPage County NAACP | ACT-SO](#) webpage and indicate their interest in a STEM category. ACT-SO point-of-contacts will reach out to the students with further information.

## PROGRAM DATES

The 2021–22 program will be conducted virtually. Information about the meeting platform, dates and times will be sent directly to student participants and their parents. At the conclusion of the program, students and mentors attend a year-end banquet to recognize and celebrate their efforts. More information about the banquet will be provided in 2022.



### EVOLUTION OF THE PROGRAM'S SUCCESS

#### 2014–2015

PARTICIPATION	LOCAL AWARDEES	NATIONAL AWARDEES
17 students	5 Gold 3 Silver 5 Bronze 1 Honorable Mention	1 Gold 1 Silver

#### 2015–2016

PARTICIPATION	LOCAL AWARDEES	NATIONAL AWARDEES
20 students	2 Gold 1 Silver 1 Bronze	1 Gold 2 Silver 1 Bronze

#### 2016–2017

PARTICIPATION	LOCAL AWARDEES	NATIONAL AWARDEES
30 students	7 Gold 7 Silver 6 Bronze	3 Gold 1 Silver 1 Bronze

#### 2017–2018

PARTICIPATION	LOCAL AWARDEES	NATIONAL AWARDEES
29 students	8 Gold 5 Silver 6 Bronze 4 Honorable Mention	4 Gold 2 Silver 1 Bronze

#### 2018–2019

PARTICIPATION	LOCAL AWARDEES	NATIONAL AWARDEES
19 students	7 Gold 5 Silver 5 Bronze 2 Honorable Mention	4 Gold 1 Silver 1 Bronze

#### 2019–2020

PARTICIPATION	LOCAL AWARDEES	NATIONAL AWARDEES
17 students	6 Gold 4 Silver 3 Bronze 1 Honorable Mention	3 Gold 3 Silver

#### 2020–2021

PARTICIPATION	LOCAL AWARDEES	NATIONAL AWARDEES
20 students	5 Gold 3 Silver 5 Bronze 3 Honorable Mention	1 Silver 1 Bronze

### STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

- A commitment to complete the program, meet regularly with mentors to work on their project, and meet required milestones
- Attend monthly ARP meetings held on the first Saturday of every month, October–March
- Be punctual for meetings and respectful of mentors volunteered time
- Attend local competition and end-of-the-year banquet

### CONTACTS

**Argonne ACT-SO Group**  
actso@anl.gov

**Jeffrey Larson**  
Co-Chair  
Phone: 630-252-3221  
Email: jmlarson@anl.gov

**Taylor Childers**  
Co-Chair  
Phone: 630-252-7163  
Email: jchilders@anl.gov

**Jarrad Hampton-Marcell**  
Co-Chair  
Phone: 630-252-5423  
Email: jhampton-marcell@anl.gov